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BY: James M. AlwayDATE: May 28, 2002#30
E. Williams
6-20-02PATENT
BOX AF**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re: Patent Application of : Group Art Unit: 1632
Darwin J. Prockop *et al.* :
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Appln. No.: 09/028,395 : Examiner: Richard Schnizer, Ph.D.
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Filed: February 24, 1998 : Attorney Docket
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For: ISOLATED STROMAL CELLS FOR USE : No. 9598-32US
IN THE TREATMENT OF DISEASES OF : (53844-5002-00)
THE CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM : AUHS-318
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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

This Response responds to the Office Action mailed November 26, 2001 (Paper No. 24), and follows an interview with the Examiner summarized in the Interview Summary dated April 29, 2002 (Paper No. 26).

This Response is being timely filed in view of the accompanying petition for a three (3) month extension of time, and associated fee, which extends the time for a response to the Office Action to and through May 28, 2002 (May 26, 2002, being a Sunday, and May 27, 2002, being Memorial Day holiday). A Notice of Appeal, and fee therefor, also accompany this Response.

REMARKS

The present invention relates to novel isolated marrow stromal cells ("MSCs") for use in treatment of a central nervous system ("CNS") disease, disorder or condition. The invention discloses methods comprising administering isolated marrow stromal cells into the CNS of a human patient thereby effecting treatment of a disease, disorder or condition thereof. Moreover, the stromal cells may be cultured *in vitro*, genetically engineered to produce therapeutic compounds, and/or pre-differentiated prior to administration into the CNS.